

**REMARKS**

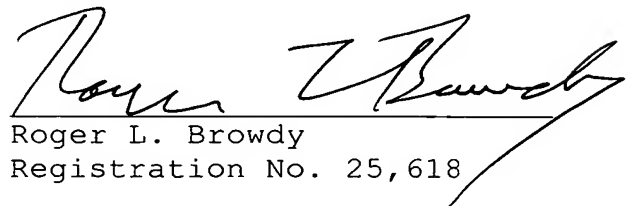
Claims 13-26 presently appear in this case. The amendments to the claims are being made to eliminate all multiple dependencies, so as to reduce the filing fee, and to place the case in better condition for examination. Please enter this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

Prompt consideration on the merits and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By

  
Roger L. Browdy  
Registration No. 25,618

Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197  
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528

RLB:lmh  
G:\BN\R\RINU\barthomeuf1\PTO\preliminary amendment.doc